

Village of Howard City  
Council Meeting Minutes  
June 15, 2020

President Heckman called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Present: Smith, MacTavish, VanWagner, Bassett, Williams and Heckman. Absent: Hagstrom.

The Pledge of Allegiance was given.

Motion by Smith seconded by Bassett to approve the agenda with the addition of B-1) Dilapidated buildings and junk cars. Motion CARRIED (6-0)

Motion by Smith seconded by Bassett to accept the consent agenda as presented. Motion CARRIED (6-0)

Public Comment: Mike Smith, Jr., 327 Ensley, passed out a letter he received from the Village Manager and his response to the letter, along with the agreement between Mr. Smith and the Planning Commission.

Karen Gorby stated she is running for House of Representatives and is present to take notes to find out what the people want in the area.

Tom Kropewnicki requested permission to host another music in the street on August 1. Mr. Falcon has on the agenda to discuss.

Trustee VanWagner inquired about dilapidated buildings and junk cars in the Village. Mr. Falcon addressed this issue and stated that letters are being sent out addressing the various violations within the Village.

Motion by Williams seconded by MacTavish to pay bills with the additions presented by the Treasurer of \$4,050.22 for a total of \$36,858.22. Motion CARRIED (6-0)

Motion by VanWagner seconded by MacTavish to accept the Grand River Construction, Inc., bid for the lagoon work. Motion CARRIED (6-0)

Mr. Falcon updated Council regarding Tri County Schools hooking up to our sewer system. Both the school's and Village's engineers have looked at this proposal and stated our system can handle the added influx. The Village would waive the hook up fees to the school.

The new auditors have been here and are almost done with the audit. They are waiting for a report from MERS in order to finish and will present to Council when it is done.

The Village offices are open to the public once again as of today.

Mr. Falcon updated the Council on the clean up and tire recycle day. It was another successful clean-up day.

Motion by VanWagner seconded by Bassett to accept the IPR Great Lakes bid of \$32,105 to fix the stormwater that collapsed by Grant Street. Motion CARRIED (6-0)

The Council decided against allowing Taekwondo classes in Ensley Park.

Council approved the music festival on Main Street on August 1, 2020. Mr. Falcon also had a discussion with Phil Butler who would like to set up a small basketball tournament and a softball tournament on the same day. Mr. Falcon will be working with both individuals to get the events organized.

Council approved Skate Estate to put up a few signs advertising a craft show they are hosting on June 28.

Mr. Falcon will work with the business owner next to the Frontier building to see about installing a sidewalk to make accessibility to the business easier for their customers.

Mr. Falcon informed Council that the new dump/plow truck should be delivered in the next couple of weeks.

Council gave permission for mobile concessions to be present during the Farmer's Market on Saturdays.

Mr. Falcon stated he has been working with the sheriff department regarding the transients that have been appearing in the Village lately.

Council agreed that the Village will give Village of Sand Lake thirty (30) days to find someone to take care of their system as the Village of Howard City will not be renewing the contract.

Mr. Falcon informed Council that the DDA has allocated \$15,000 to be used in a grant program for the businesses in town to help alleviate their financial burdens during the crisis.

Public Comment: Brandy Antor updated council on the Parks and Recreation Committee and their plans going forward. The band shell is in the planning stages; she requested to be allowed to fill out paperwork for 50/50 drawings during Music in the Park again this year; and she also stated she will be contacting local businesses regarding possible fund raising for the band shell.

Ron Baker stated the Montcalm County administration building is open to the public as of today.

Trustee Bassett inquired about fire department training and billing insurance companies and also requested more police coverage around Ensley Park for all the side by sides and quads that have been using the park.

Trustee MacTavish inquired about Harvest Festival which has been cancelled this year.

Trustee VanWagner inquired about billing the insurance companies for fire runs as well.

Motion by Williams seconded by MacTavish to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 pm. Motion CARRIED (6-0)

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Melissa Kuzmik, Clerk

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Randy Heckman, President